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No cases having occurred in Talladega since January 30, the epidemic there may be said to be at an end, until the town is reinfected.

From the first of the above table it will be seen that in Birmingham and Bessemer, where, under city ordinance, vaccination can be enforced, the decrease in the weekly number of cases has been steady. In the county, however, in some of the smaller towns and mining camps, vaccination is optional, it is opposed by the people, and, for the reasons stated in my letter of February 7, cases of smallpox, I believe, will continue to appear for some time to come. The force of inspectors has been reduced to about 20 men, and owing to the growing opposition on the part of the people, they are accomplishing but little; therefore, if it meets with the approval of the Bureau, I will discontinue these as soon as the inspection now being made is completed, and unless something unforeseen should happen, I will discontinue operations about March 1.

As stated in previous communications, the population of the mining camps, with which this and adjoining counties are dotted, is a very shifting one. Unvaccinated laborers are continually coming in, furnishing material to keep the disease alive, and in many cases bringing infection with them, so that, in my opinion, unless work is undertaken throughout the South, it is almost a hopeless task to attempt to stamp it out entirely and permanently, either here or in any other locality.

I have urged the mine owners to have all new labor vaccinated by their mine physicians, and though they promise to do this, the rule is in most cases a dead letter.

Respectfully, yours, G. M. MAGRUDER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Precautions against the spread of smallpox in Brownsville.

BROWNSVILLE, TEX., *February 12, 1898.*

SIR: In my communication to you of the 7th instant, I reported the discovery in this city of 1 case of smallpox. So far no other cases have occurred. In addition to other precautions taken by the municipal authorities to prevent a spread of the disease, I would mention the vaccination of the pupils of the public schools. I was ordered to do this by the city council, and have this day completed the work. Over 500 subjects have been vaccinated. This work is still continued amongst the indigent poor, who have not taken this precaution.

Respectfully, FREDERICK J. COMBE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Smallpox in Johnson City, Tenn.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., *February 16, 1898.*

SIR: Since my last report 3 new cases have developed in quarantine and 1 woman out of quarantine in a third part of city. Last case was caused by carelessness of guards or insufficient guards. * * *

We have 9 cases of discrete smallpox in pesthouse and 50 exposed persons in quarantine. Our quarantine is rigid now, and I feel sure the local board will not allow another accident like the above.

I am, very truly, yours, W. J. MILLER.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., *February 19, 1898.*

SIR: I am glad to report no new cases of smallpox here for last two days; 9 cases in pesthouse, 4 convalescent; rest in good condition, and

will recover without some unforseen complication; 10 cases in all here up to date; 44 people in quarantine. All have been vaccinated, and all now have a good catch from it. I inclose orders and regulations of county board of health, of Washington County, Tenn.

Thanks for copy of PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS, of February 4 and 11, 1898. Will keep you informed as to condition of smallpox in our town.

I am, yours, very truly, W. J. MILLER.

P. S.—One death, woman, negro, died after premature delivery in pesthouse.

[Inclosure.]

Proclamation.

WHEREAS, The county board of health for Washington County has been directed by the State board of health to at once adopt and carry into effect such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the restriction and suppression of smallpox now existing in Johnson City, and

WHEREAS, It is the duty, by statute, for the board of health for Washington County to assume the management and control of any contagious or epidemic disease within the limits of the county;

Therefore, The following orders and rules are hereby issued by the board of health for Washington County:

I.

1. The physician in charge of the pesthouse and quarantine stations will be, and he is hereby, restricted from all other practice, and from mixing and mingling with the public, upon the streets and in the stores in Johnson City, any more than is really necessary in the discharge of his duties as smallpox physician.

2. He will be required to keep a record of the number of cases in the pesthouse, their condition, and the number of people in quarantine, and make report of same to the county board from day to day.

3. When the physician discovers a case of smallpox in quarantine, or elsewhere, he must remove same to the pesthouse, under his supervision and direction, between the hours of 8 p. m. and 6 a. m.

II.

1. All guards are under the control and direction of the county sheriff and his deputies by order of the county board of health, and they are restricted from entering stores, appearing in public places, going to the post office and saloons, and from passing along the public business streets of Johnson City. And they are, by order of said board, to be held under surveillance of the board, at its discretion, for fourteen days after the time of their discharge.

2. The driver of the pesthouse wagon is under the control of the physician and the same restrictions apply to him as apply to the physician.

III.

1. The board of health for Washington County further orders that the people be restricted from congregating in the churches and public halls in Johnson City until further orders from the board.

2. All schools in Johnson City are ordered suspended until further orders.

IV.

1. It is ordered that all the people in Johnson City submit to vaccination, and have it done at the earliest possible moment, by a competent physician. All regular physicians of Johnson City are authorized by this board to correctly keep the names of all the people vaccinated, and make report to the county board when so required.

2. All paupers, when the fact is established that they are paupers, will be vaccinated at the expense of the county, the county board to fix the price for such vaccination with the physicians.

V.

The sheriff and his deputies, by order of the Board, have, in conjunction with the city police, control of the streets and public thoroughfares in Johnson City, and they are hereby authorized and directed by the board to prevent idlers from loitering on any of the public streets, about saloons, along the railroad track, and especially in and about the depots in Johnson City; and to prevent people from congregating at the depots upon the arrival and departure of trains, unless there for the purpose of taking the train or to receive friends; and to keep all pedestrians moving.

VI.

All dogs and cats found running at large will be killed.

VII.

A health certificate bearing the seal of the city and recorder's signature will be valid.

Penalty.—All persons violating the above rules and orders of the board of health, which are for the prevention, restriction, and extinction of the smallpox now existing, and shall fail to comply with said rules and orders, after written notice pertaining thereto shall have been served upon him or her, shall, by statute, be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined or confined in the county jail, at the discretion of the court.

J. S. STUART,
CHAS. S. MASON,
Board of Health for Washington County.

Smallpox in the United States as reported to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service, January 1 to February 25, 1898.

Places.	Date.	Cases.	Deaths.	Remarks.
Alabama:				
Bessemer	To Jan. 6	42		
	Jan. 9-Jan. 26	78		
	Jan 30-Feb. 19	23		
Birmingham	Jan. 6-Jan. 8	11		
	Jan. 9-Jan. 26	29		
	Jan. 30-Feb. 19	7		
In Jefferson county, outside of the city	Feb. 6-Feb. 19	26		
Carneys Bluff	Feb. 17			Smallpox reported.
Dolomite	Dec. 1-Jan. 17	21		
Gosport	Feb. 17			Do.
Glendon	Feb. 17			Do.
Jackson	Feb. 17	10		
Newton	Jan. 15-Feb. 2	7		
Nichola	Feb. 17			Do.
Oxmar	Jan. 19			Do.
Pinckard	To Feb. 2	50		
Salitpa	Feb. 17			Do.
Selma	Jan. 13-Feb. 14	3		
Shelby	Jan. 28	1		
Talladega	Jan. 9-Jan. 26	41		
	Jan. 27-Feb. 15	4		
Walker Springs	Feb. 17			Do.
District of Columbia:				
Washington	Feb. 7	1		Naval Hospital.
Florida:				
Washington County	Jan. 24	12		
Georgia:				
Atlanta	Jan. 17	131		Most cases from county.
	Jan. 18-Jan. 25	18	1	
	Jan. 26-Feb. 16	29	1	
Kentucky:				
Middlesborough	Feb. 3	7		
New York:				
Deposit	Nov. 1-Nov. 30	1		
North Carolina:				
Charlotte	Jan. 25	2		
	Jan. 26-Feb. 12	2		
Clay County	Feb. 15	1		
Wilmington	Jan. 12	1		
South Carolina:				
Beaufort	Jan. 17			Smallpox reported.
Greenville	Jan. 17			Do.
Orangeburg	Jan. 17			Do.
Rock Hill	Jan. 17			Do.
Spartanburg	Jan. 17			Do.
Swansea	Jan. 15			Do.
Tennessee:				
Chattanooga	Jan. 1-Jan. 29	1		
Huntington (near)	Jan. 1-Jan. 29	1		
Johnson City	Feb. 15-Feb. 1[illegible]	9		
Knoxville	Jan. 1-Jan. 29	3		
Lenoir City	Jan. 1-Jan. 29	2		
Memphis	Jan. 22-Jan. 29	1		
	Jan. 30-Feb. 10	1		
Mingo mines	Jan. 1-Jan. 29	6		
Texas:				
Brownsville	Feb. 7	1		
Virginia:				
Colburn	Feb. 1			Do.
Norton	Feb. 1			Do.